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MEMORANDUM

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Abby Henig, Assistant General Counsel

2006 DEC 15 Corporation Commission—Securities Division
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TO:

Docket Control

Doundt Contro

FROM:

Abby Henigo

DATE:

December 15, 2006

RE:

Docket # RS-00000A-05-0809

Please file the attached in docket #RS-00000A-05-0809. No distribution is necessary. Attached are the December 13, 2006, letter from the attorney general notifying the Division of approval of the amendments to A.A.C. R14-4-101,-206 with attachments, including copies of the attorney general certificate of approval, the Commission certificate, the economic, small business, and consumer impact statement, and the Notice of Final Rulemaking.

Thank you.

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

DEC 15 2006

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ARIZONA

TERRY GODDARD
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Matthew Neubert Director of Securities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1300 W. Washington, Third Floor Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: A.G. Rule No. 06-04; A.A.C. R14-6-101, -206

Dear Mr. Neubert:

We have reviewed the above-referenced rules adopted by the Arizona Corporation Commission. We have determined that the rules are in proper form, are clear, concise and understandable, within the power of the agency to adopt and within legislative standards, and were adopted in compliance with appropriate procedures.

Accordingly, pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1044, I have affixed my signature to the original Approval of Final Rules and have forwarded it together with the original rules, notice of final rulemaking, and economic, small business, and consumer impact statement and four copies of each to the Secretary of State.

We have enclosed a copy for your reference.

Terry Goddard Attorney General

ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROVAL OF FINAL RULES

1. Agency Name: Arizona Corporation Commission, Securities Division

2. <u>Chapter Heading</u>: Chapter 6, Corporation Commission, Investment

Management

3. Code Citation for the Chapter: 14 A.A.C. 6

4. The Articles and the Sections involved in the rulemaking, listed in alphabetical and numerical order:

Sections Action

Article 1, Section R14-6-101 Amended

Article 2, Section R14-6-206 Amended

5. The rules contained in this package are approved as final rules pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1044.

6. TERRY GODDARD,

Date

AGENCY CERTIFICATE

NOTICE OF FINAL RULEMAKING

1.	Agency name:	Arizona Corporation Commission, Securities Division
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- 2. Chapter heading: Chapter 6. Corporation Commission, Investment Management
- 3. Code citation for the Chapter: 14 A.A.C. 6
- 4. The Subchapters, if applicable; the Articles; the Parts, if applicable; and the Sections involved in the rulemaking, listed in numerical order:

Subchapters, Articles, Parts, and Sections	<u>Action</u>
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5. The rules contained in this package are true and correct versions of the rules made by the agency.

6. Brian C. McNeil 23 Jun 06.
Date

Executive Director
Arizona Corporation Commission

7. Exempt from Governor's Regulatory Review Council: A.R.S. § 41-1057

Arizona Corporation Commission, Securities Division
Chapter 6, Corporation Commission—Investment Management
Article 1. General Provisions Relating to the Arizona Investment Management Act
Article 2. Duties of Investment Advisers and Investment Adviser Representatives

Economic, Small Business, and Consumer Impact Statement

- A. Economic, small business, and consumer impact summary.
- 1. Proposed rulemaking.

The Arizona Corporation Commission (the "Commission") proposes the amendment of A.A.C. Sections R14-6-101 ("rule 101") and R14-6-206 ("rule 206").

2. Summary of information included in this economic, small business, and consumer impact statement.

The economic, small business, and consumer impact statement for rules 101 and 206 analyzes the costs, savings, and benefits that accrue to the Commission, the regulated public, and the general public. The amendments to rule 101 and rule 206 should decrease Commission costs by reducing the amount of Commission resources expended on the review of annual surprise public accountant examinations of licensed investment advisers that maintain custody of client funds or securities. The costs experienced by the regulated public should also decrease because investment advisers that reasonably believe qualified custodians are providing quarterly account statements directly to clients will be relieved from obtaining surprise annual public accountant examinations and sending quarterly account statements to investors. The Commission does not anticipate that the rules will impose costs upon the general public.

The benefits provided by the amendments to rule 101 and rule 206 are nonquantifiable. The regulated public should benefit from clarification of the definition of "custody" and the responsibilities of the investment adviser when it has custody of

client funds or securities. In most cases, the regulated public will benefit from relief from obtaining annual surprise examinations by public accountants. The general public will benefit from the protection afforded by the fact that investor assets in the custody of investment advisers will be in the possession of qualified custodians and that the investor will receive quarterly statements prepared and distributed by the qualified custodian.

The Commission anticipates that the rulemaking may decrease and will not increase monitoring, record keeping, or reporting burdens on businesses or persons. The costs of implementation or enforcement are decreased or, if increased, are only marginally increased and such increase does not equal or exceed the reduction in burdens.

3. Name and address of agency employees who may be contacted to submit or request additional data on the information included in this statement.

Abby Henig Assistant General Counsel Securities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1300 W. Washington, Third Floor Phoenix, AZ 85007

B. Economic, small business, and consumer impact statement.

The Commission has not conducted any study and is not aware of any study that measures the cost of implementation or compliance with the proposed amendments. The time and dollar expenditures necessary to obtain such data are prohibitive. Adequate data, therefore, is not reasonably available to provide quantitative responses to the items listed under A.R.S. § 41-1055(B).

The amendments to rule 101 and rule 206, however, parallel amendments to 17 CFR § 275.206(4)-2 ("federal custody rule"), a federal rule adopted under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to govern federally registered investment advisers maintaining

custody of investor funds and securities. In conjunction with its amendments to the federal custody rule, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") prepared a cost-benefit analysis, reflected in Custody of Funds or Securities of Clients by Investment Advisers, Investment Advisers Act of 1940 Release No. 2176, 68 Fed. Reg. 56692 (Oct. 1, 2003). The Commission believes that the impact of rule 101 and rule 206 on state-licensed investment advisers will be similar to the impact of the federal custody rule on federally registered investment advisers. The Commission concurs with the SEC's assessment and the assessment of the regulated public who commented upon the federal custody rule that the amendments will ease the regulatory burden on investment advisers and increase investor protection.

1. Proposed rulemaking.

The Commission amends A.A.C. R14-6-101 ("rule 101") and A.A.C. R14-6-206 ("rule 206") in order to: (i) clarify circumstances under which investment advisers have custody of client securities or funds; (ii) achieve greater accountability for and transparency of transactions in client accounts; and (iii) reduce duplicative burdens by harmonizing requirements imposed on investment advisers with current custodial practices and requirements imposed under federal law.

Prior to the proposed amendments to rule 101 and rule 206, an investment adviser with custody of a client's funds or securities must: (i) segregate the securities in a safe place, clearly marked with respect to client ownership; (ii) deposit funds in a bank or similar account in the investment adviser's name; (iii) keep a separate record for each such fund account; (iv) notify the client of the location of the funds and securities; (v) provide the client with a quarterly account statement; and (vi) obtain an unscheduled examination and

verification of all client funds and securities by an independent public accountant at least once a year.

The proposed amendments would: (i) define "custody"; (ii) require an investment adviser with custody of client funds and securities to maintain those funds and securities with defined qualified custodians; and (iii) relieve an investment adviser from sending clients quarterly account statements and undergoing an annual surprise examination if the investment adviser reasonably believes the qualified custodians send quarterly account statements directly to clients.

2. Persons who will be directly affected by, bear the costs of, or directly benefit from the proposed rulemaking.

Those affected by the proposed amendment to rule 206 include investment advisers as defined by the Arizona Investment Management Act who have custody of client funds or securities, except that rule 206 is only applicable to federally registered investment advisers to the extent permitted by Section 203A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and the clients whose assets are in the custody of such investment advisers. The Commission estimates that approximately 10 percent of investment advisers maintain custody of client assets. Currently, approximately 300 investment advisers are licensed in Arizona and approximately 8,000 investment advisers are registered with the SEC. Federally registered investment advisers must comply with the federal custody rule.

Cost bearers.

The costs of compliance with rule 206 will be borne directly by the regulated persons. The cost of enforcement and implementation of rule 206 will be borne by the Commission.

Beneficiaries.

The regulated public will benefit from clarification of the definition of custody and the replacement of annual surprise examination and quarterly account statement requirements with services provided by qualified custodians. The Commission will benefit from reduced review of annual surprise examination reports. The general public who give investment advisers custody of their securities or funds will benefit from the safeguards provided by qualified custodians.

3. Cost/benefit analysis.

a. Cost/benefit analysis of the probable costs and benefits to the implementing agency and other agencies directly affected by the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rulemaking.

The benefits of the rulemaking outweigh the probable costs to the Commission.

The Commission will have no implementation costs because the procedures, forms, etc., implemented in connection with the rules will not vary materially from those currently used. As a result of the rules' increased clarity and simpler compliance procedures, costs to the Commission incurred in connection with the monitoring of investment advisers and reviewing annual surprise examinations will be reduced. The Commission anticipates that the costs to enforce the rules may decrease because of the increased clarity of

compliance requirements and the participation by qualified custodians in the safeguard of client funds and securities.

b. Cost/benefit analysis of the probable costs and benefits to a political subdivision of this state directly affected by the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rulemaking.

No political subdivision of the state will incur costs by the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rulemaking.

c. Cost/benefit analysis of the probable costs and benefits to businesses directly affected by the proposed rulemaking, including any anticipated effect on the revenues or payroll expenditures of employers who are subject to the proposed rulemaking.

The benefits of the rulemaking outweigh the probable costs to regulated persons.

The amendments require that all investment advisers with custody of client securities or funds retain qualified custodians to maintain possession of the assets. The Commission understands that many investment advisers already deposit client assets with dealers and banks or other persons that meet the definition of qualified custodian.

Investment advisers who do not maintain client assets with qualified custodians may incur a cost to do so in compliance with the rule. The Commission believes that such cost should be more than offset by the compliance benefits, which include:

— If an investment adviser reasonably believes that the qualified custodian provides the client with quarterly account statements, the investment adviser is not required to provide quarterly account statements to those clients.

— If an investment adviser reasonably believes that the qualified custodian provides the client with quarterly account statements, the investment adviser is not required to obtain an annual surprise examination by an independent public accountant, the cost of which the Commission has been informed by the regulated public is \$8,000 to \$10,000.

Investment advisers that have custody of assets already in the possession of qualified custodians will receive the benefits without additional cost.

Additional, nonquantifiable benefits include resource and time savings as a result of the clarification of the definition of custody. Currently, the Arizona Investment Management Act does not define custody. The Commission and the regulated public expend resources seeking interpretative guidance from federal law and SEC no-action letters and releases.

4. General description of the probable impact on private and public employment in businesses, agencies, and political subdivisions of this state directly affected by the proposed rulemaking.

The Commission anticipates that the impact of the rulemaking on public and private employment will be minimal. Investment advisers may expend fewer employee resources preparing quarterly account statements, which statements in most cases will be prepared and distributed by qualified custodians. The expenditure of employee resources by qualified custodians, however, probably will not significantly change because many investment advisers that have custody of client assets already maintain such assets with qualified custodians and such custodians already provide account statements in addition to those prepared by the investment advisers. Public accountants may experience a

decrease in expenditure of employee resources conducting annual surprise examinations.

The actual number of investment advisers with custody of client assets that will be impacted by this rulemaking is not material to the accounting industry and the Commission does not anticipate staff reduction. The Commission anticipates the expenditure of Commission employee resources on review of surprise examination reports will decrease, but such reduction will not result in staff reduction.

- 5. Statement of the probable impact of the proposed rulemaking on small businesses.
- a. An identification of the small businesses subject to the proposed rulemaking.

Investment advisers as defined by the Arizona Investment Management Act who have custody of client funds or securities are subject to the rulemaking. Federally registered investment advisers are not small businesses. Rule 206 is only applicable to federally registered investment advisers to the extent permitted by Section 203A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Investment advisers licensed in the state of Arizona generally are small businesses. Rule 206 is applicable to all such investment advisers. Currently, approximately 300 investment advisers are licensed with the Commission, of which less than 10 percent have custody of client assets.

b. The administrative and other costs required for compliance with the proposed rulemaking.

The Commission anticipates that the cost of compliance with proposed changes will not significantly differ and may decrease from current compliance costs due to the clarification and simplification of compliance requirements.

c. A description of the methods that the agency may use to reduce the impact on small businesses.

The proposed amendments affect a small percentage of investment advisers, i.e. those who have custody of client assets. Such regulation is deemed necessary and appropriate to provide investor protection in this state. The Commission understands from the regulated public that it perceives this rulemaking to be a method of reducing compliance costs from those currently borne by investment advisers with custody of client assets because many investment advisers have custody of assets already in the possession of qualified custodians. The rulemaking will relieve such investment advisers from obtaining annual examinations and preparing duplicative quarterly statements.

d. The probable cost and benefit to private persons and consumers who are directly affected by the proposed rulemaking.

Nonregulated persons and consumers will bear no direct cost as a result of the proposed amendment. All clients of investment advisers who authorize the investment advisers to have custody of client assets will benefit by having funds and securities held by qualified custodians and by receiving quarterly account statements directly from independent sources, from which statements clients can identify inaccurate or inappropriate transactions in their accounts.

6. Statement of the probable effect on state revenues.

The Commission anticipates that the rulemaking will have no effect on state revenues.

7. Description of any less intrusive or less costly alternative methods of achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking.

The goal of the proposed amendment is to effectuate the least intrusive and costly method of regulation of investment advisers required to achieve the statutorily mandated level of public protection.

NOTICE OF FINAL RULEMAKING

TITLE 14. PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS; CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS; SECURITIES REGULATION

CHAPTER 6. CORPORATION COMMISSION—INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

PREAMBLE

1. Sections Affected Rulemaking Action

A.A.C. R14-6-101 Amend

A.A.C. R14-6-206 Amend

2. The specific authority for the rulemaking, including both the authorizing statute (general)

and the implementing statute (specific):

Authorizing statute: A.R.S. § 44-3131

Implementing statute: A.R.S. § 44-3241

Constitutional authority: Arizona Constitution, Article XV, § 6

3. The effective date of the rule:

The rule is effective 60 days after the date filed with the office of the secretary of state.

4. A list of all previous notices appearing in the Register addressing the final rule:

Notice of Rulemaking Docket Opening 11 A.A.R. 5220, December 9, 2005

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 12 A.A.R. 637, March 3, 2006

5. The name and address of agency personnel with whom persons may communicate regarding the rulemaking:

Name: Abby Henig

Address:

Arizona Corporation Commission, Securities Division

1300 W. Washington, Third Floor

Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Telephone:

(602) 542-0187

Fax Number:

(602) 594-7402

E-mail:

ahenig@azcc.gov

6. An explanation of the rule, including the agency's reasons for initiating the rulemaking:

A.A.C. R14-6-206 ("rule 206") regulates the custody of client funds and securities by investment advisers. A.A.C. R14-6-101 ("rule 101") provides definitions for the terms used in the rules promulgated under Arizona's Investment Management Act.

As reflected in SEC Release No. IA-2176, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") amended its rule governing custody of client funds and securities by investment advisers, effective November 5, 2003 with a compliance date of April 1, 2004. The amended rule replaces a labyrinth of no-action letters and provides clear guidance on what constitutes custody and the actions an investment adviser must take when it has custody of client funds and securities.

Under the current set of definitions set forth in rule 101, the term "custody" is not defined. The Securities Division has relied upon federal rules and no-action letters for guidance. This amendment provides clarification as to when an investment adviser has custody of a client's funds or securities.

Amended rule 206 sets forth procedures for investment advisers to follow once they have custody of a client's funds or securities, i.e. the funds or securities must be maintained by a "qualified custodian" (defined in rule 101), with quarterly statements to be sent to

clients. Investment advisors are relieved from sending clients quarterly account statements and undergoing an annual surprise examination if qualified custodians send such quarterly account statement directly to clients.

With the introduction of qualified custodians, the protection of client assets is enhanced. Procedures to be followed by investment advisers once they have custody of client funds or securities are clarified, decreasing their record keeping burdens. The amended rules align state regulations with current industry practice and federal regulation.

The Commission amends rule 101 and rule 206 to benefit investors by providing clarity and transparency of information.

7. A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and either relied on or did not rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:

None.

8. A showing of good cause why the rule is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rule will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

Not applicable.

9. A summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact:

The economic, small business, and consumer impact statement for rules 101 and 206 analyzes the costs, savings, and benefits that accrue to the Commission, the regulated public, and the general public. The amendments to rule 101 and rule 206 should decrease Commission costs by reducing the amount of Commission resources expended on the

review of annual surprise public accountant examinations of licensed investment advisers that maintain custody of client funds or securities. The costs experienced by the regulated public should also decrease because investment advisers that reasonably believe qualified custodians are providing quarterly account statements directly to clients will be relieved from obtaining surprise annual public accountant examinations and sending quarterly account statements to investors. The Commission does not anticipate that the rules will impose costs upon the general public.

The benefits provided by the amendments to rule 101 and rule 206 are nonquantifiable. The regulated public should benefit from clarification of the definition of "custody" and the responsibilities of the investment adviser when it has custody of client funds or securities. In most cases, the regulated public will benefit from relief from obtaining annual surprise examinations by public accountants. The general public will benefit from the protection afforded by the fact that investor assets in the custody of investment advisers will be in the possession of qualified custodians and that the investor will receive quarterly statements prepared and distributed by the qualified custodian.

The Commission anticipates that the rulemaking may decrease and will not increase monitoring, record keeping, or reporting burdens on businesses or persons. The costs of implementation or enforcement are decreased or, if increased, are only marginally increased and such increase does not equal or exceed the reduction in burdens.

10. A description of the changes between the proposed rule, including supplemental notices, and the final rule:

None.

11. A summary of the comments made regarding the rule and the agency response to them:

The Commission did not receive written comments to the rules.

12. Any other matters prescribed by statute that are applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules:

None.

13. Any material incorporated by reference and its location in the text:

None.

14. Whether the rule was previously made as an emergency rule and, if so, whether the text was changed between the making as an emergency and the making of the final rule:

Not applicable.

15. The full text of the rule follows:

TITLE 14. PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS; CORPORATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS; SECURITIES REGULATION

CHAPTER 6. CORPORATION COMMISSION

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ARIZONA INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT ACT

Section

R14-6-101. Definitions

ARTICLE 2. DUTIES OF INVESTMENT ADVISERS AND INVESTMENT ADVISER
REPRESENTATIVES

Section

R14-6-206. Custody of Client Funds or Securities by Investment Advisers

R14-6-101. Definitions

- A. The definitions set forth in A.R.S. §§ 44-1801 and 44-3101 shall apply to the rules promulgated under A.R.S. Title 44, Chapter 13.
- B. The following definitions shall apply to all rules promulgated under A.R.S. Title 44,

 Chapter 13, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 1. "Advertisement" means, except as set forth in subsections (d) and (e), any notice, circular, letter, or other written, oral, or electronically generated communication addressed to or reasonably designed by the investment adviser or investment adviser representative to be accessed by more than one person, or any notice or other announcement in any publication or by radio or television, that directly or indirectly offers:
 - a. Any analysis, report, or publication that either concerns securities, or is to be used in making any determination as to when to buy or sell any security or which security to buy or sell; or
 - b. Any graph, chart, formula, or other device to be used in making any determination as to when to buy or sell any security, or which security to buy or sell; or
 - c. Any other investment advisory service with regard to securities:
 - d. A communication over a computer on-line service including but not limited to an electronic bulletin board shall not be deemed to be an advertisement when an investment adviser or an investment adviser representative is either:
 - i. Engaged in a discussion regarding securities and does not receive compensation from any person for the discussion; or

- Responds to unsolicited inquiries regarding the provision of investment advisory services.
- e. A communication by one or more investment advisers or investment adviser representatives shall not be deemed to be an advertisement when the communication is addressed solely to or is reasonably designed to be accessed solely by other investment advisers or investment adviser representatives.
- 2. "Certified public accountant" or "CPA" means an accountant who has been registered or licensed to practice public accounting and is permitted to use the title "certified public accountant" and to use the initials "CPA" after the accountant's name.
- 3. "Custody" means holding, directly or indirectly, client funds or securities, or having any authority to obtain possession of them. Custody includes:
 - a. Possession of client funds or securities (but not of checks drawn by clients and made payable to third parties), unless received inadvertently and returned to the sender promptly, but in any case within three business days of receiving them;
 - b. Any arrangement (including a general power of attorney) under which the
 investment adviser is authorized or permitted to withdraw client funds or
 securities maintained with a custodian upon the investment adviser's instruction to
 the custodian; and
 - c. Any capacity (such as general partner of a limited partnership, managing member of a limited liability company or a comparable position for another type of pooled investment vehicle, or trustee of a trust) that gives the investment adviser or the

investment adviser representative legal ownership of or access to client funds or securities.

- 3.4. "Federal covered adviser" means an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.
- 4.5. "Fixed fee basis" means an investment advisory fee that at any given time can be precisely established in a dollar amount without regard to the investment performance or value of an account and that is not based on the purchase or sale of specific securities.
- 5.6. "Form ADV" means the Uniform Application for Investment Adviser Registration, 17 CFR 279.1, as required by A.R.S. § 44-3153.
- 6.7. "IM Act" means the Arizona Investment Management Act, A.R.S. § 44-3101 et seq.
- 7.8. "Impersonal advisory services" means investment advisory services provided solely:
 - a. By means of written material or oral statements that do not purport to meet the objectives or needs of specific individuals or accounts;
 - b. Through the issuance of statistical information containing no expression of opinion as to the investment merits of a particular security; or
 - c. Any combination of the foregoing services.
- 9. "Independent representative" means a person that:
 - Acts as agent for a client, including in the case of a pooled investment vehicle, for

 limited partners of a limited partnership (or members of a limited liability

 company, or other beneficial owners of another type of pooled investment vehicle)

- and by law or contract is obliged to act in the best interest of the advisory client or the limited partners (or members, or other beneficial owners);
- b. Does not control, is not controlled by, and is not under common control with the investment adviser; and
- c. Does not have, and has not had within the past two years, a material business relationship with the investment adviser.
- 8.10. "Internet" means all proprietary or common carrier electronic systems, or similar media.
- 9.11. "Internet communication" means the distribution of information on the Internet.
- 10.12. "Investment-related" means pertaining to securities, commodities, banking, insurance, or real estate, including but not limited to acting as or being associated with a broker-dealer, investment company, investment adviser, government securities broker or dealer, municipal securities dealer, bank, savings and loan association, entity, or person required to be registered under the Commodity Exchange Act, or a fiduciary.
- 11.13. "Involved" means acting or aiding, abetting, causing, counseling, commanding, inducing, conspiring with, or failing reasonably to supervise another in doing an act.
- 12.14. "Management person" means a person with power to exercise, directly or indirectly, a controlling influence over the management or policies of an investment adviser that is a company or to determine the general investment advice given to clients.
- 13.15. "NASAA" means the North American Securities Administrators Association, Inc., or any successor organization.

14.16. "NASD" means the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., or any successor or subsidiary organization.

17. "Qualified custodian" means:

- <u>A bank or a savings association that has deposits insured by the Federal Deposit</u>
 <u>Insurance Corporation under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;</u>
- <u>A broker or dealer registered under Section 15(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange</u>
 Act of 1934, holding the client assets in customer accounts;
- <u>Exchange Act</u>, holding the client assets in customer accounts, but only with respect to clients' funds and security futures, or other securities incidental to transactions in contracts for the purchase or sale of a commodity for future delivery and options thereon; and
- d. A foreign financial institution that customarily holds financial assets for its customers, provided that the foreign financial institution keeps the clients' assets in customer accounts segregated from its proprietary assets.
- 15.18. "Relative" means any relationship by blood, marriage, or adoption, not more remote than 1st cousin.
- 16.19. "Rule 204-2" means United States securities and exchange commission rule 204-2, 17 CFR 275.204-2 (1998), which is incorporated by reference, does not contain any later amendments or editions, and is on file in the office of the secretary of state. Copies of Rule 204-2 are available from the Division and from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

- 17.20. "SEC" means United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 18.21. "Securities Act" means the Securities Act of Arizona, A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq.
- 19.22. "Self-regulatory organization" or "SRO" means any national securities or commodities exchange, registered association, or registered clearing agency.
- 20.23. "Unincorporated organization" includes a limited liability company for purposes of the definition of "person," as defined in A.R.S. § 44-1801.
- 21.24. "Wrap fee program" means a program under which any client is charged a specified fee or fees not based directly upon transactions in a client's account for investment advisory services, which may include portfolio management or advice concerning the selection of other investment advisers, and execution of client transactions.
- R14-6-206. Custody of Client Funds or Securities by Investment Advisers
- A. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, it shall constitute a fraudulent practice within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-3241(A)(4) for any investment adviser to take or have custody of any securities or funds of any client unless:
 - The investment adviser notifies the Commission in writing that the investment adviser
 has or may have custody of client funds or securities. Such notification may be given
 on Form ADV.
 - 2. The securities of each client are segregated, marked to identify the particular client having the beneficial interest therein, and held in safekeeping in some place reasonably free from risk of destruction or other loss. A qualified custodian maintains those funds and securities:
 - a. In a separate account for each client under that client's name; or

- b. In accounts containing only clients' funds and securities, maintained in the name of the investment adviser as agent or trustee for such clients.
- All client funds are deposited in one or more bank or similar accounts containing only clients! funds, such accounts are maintained in the name of the investment adviser as agent or trustee for such clients, and the investment adviser maintains a separate record for each such account showing the name and address of the bank or similar institution where the account is maintained, the dates and amounts of deposits into and withdrawals from the account, and the exact amount of each client's beneficial interest in the account. If opening an account with a qualified custodian, either under the client's name or under the investment adviser's name as agent, the investment adviser notifies the client in writing of the qualified custodian's name, address, and the manner in which the funds or securities are maintained, promptly when the account is opened and following any changes to this information.
- 4. Immediately after accepting custody or possession of funds or securities from any client, the investment adviser notifies the client in writing of the place where and the manner in which the funds and securities will be maintained and, subsequently, if and when there is a change in the place where or the manner in which the funds or securities are maintained, the investment adviser gives written notice to the client within ten business days. Account statements are sent to clients at least quarterly, either:
 - a. By a qualified custodian, if the investment adviser has a reasonable basis for
 believing that the qualified custodian sends the requisite account statement to each

- client for which it maintains funds or securities, identifying the amount of funds and of each security in the account at the end of the period and setting forth all transactions in the account during that period; or
- <u>b.</u> By the investment adviser, to each client for whom it has custody of funds or securities, identifying the amount of funds and of each security of which it has custody at the end of the period and setting forth all transactions in the account during that period if:
 - i. An independent certified public accountant verifies all of those client funds and securities by actual examination at least once during each calendar year, at a time chosen by the accountant, without prior notice or announcement to the investment adviser, that is irregular from year to year; and
 - ii. The independent certified public accountant files a copy of the auditor's report and financial statements with the Commission within 30 calendar days after the completion of the examination, along with a letter stating that it has examined the funds and securities, describing the nature and extent of the examination; and
 - <u>iii.</u> Upon finding any material discrepancies during the course of the
 <u>examination</u>, the independent certified public accountant notifies the
 <u>Commission</u> within one business day of the finding, by means of a fax
 transmission or electronic mail, followed by first-class mail.
- 5. At least once every three months, the investment adviser sends each client an itemized statement showing the client's funds and securities in the investment adviser's custody

- at the end of such period and all debits, credits, and transactions in the client's account during such period.
- 6. At least once every calendar year, an independent CPA or public accountant verifies all client funds and securities by actual examination at a time chosen by the independent CPA or public accountant without prior notice to the investment adviser. The independent CPA's or public accountant's report stating that such CPA or public accountant has made an examination of such funds and securities, and describing the nature and extent of the examination, shall be filed with the Commission within 30 calendar days after the examination.
- B. If the investment adviser is a general partner of a limited partnership (or managing member of a limited liability company, or holds a comparable position for another type of pooled investment vehicle), the account statements required under subsection (A)(4) must be sent to each limited partner (or member or other beneficial owner).
- C. A client may designate an independent representative to receive, on his behalf, notices and account statements as required under subsections (A)(3) and (A)(4).
- D. With respect to shares of an open-end company, the company's transfer agent may be used in lieu of a qualified custodian for purposes of complying with subsection (A).
- E. An investment adviser is not required to comply with this Section with respect to certain privately offered securities that are:
 - 1. Acquired from the issuer in a transaction or chain of transactions not involving any public offering; uncertificated, and ownership thereof is recorded only on books of the

- issuer to its transfer agent in the name of the client; and transferable only with prior consent of the issuer or holders of the outstanding securities of the issuer.
- 2. Notwithstanding subsection (E)(1), the exception provided by subsection (E) is available with respect to securities held for the account of a limited partnership (or limited liability company, or other type of pooled investment vehicle) only if the limited partnership is audited, and the audited financial statements are distributed, as described in subsection (F).
- F. The investment adviser is not required to comply with subsections (A)(4) and (B) with respect to the account of a limited partnership (or limited liability company, or another type of pooled investment vehicle) that is subject to audit at least annually and distributes its audited financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles to all limited partners (or members or other beneficial owners) within 120 days of the end of its fiscal year.
- G. Compliance with this Section is not required with respect to the account of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940.
- B.<u>H</u>. With respect to federal covered advisers, the provisions of this Section only apply to the extent permitted by Section 203A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.